

Introduced by Senator Wiggins

February 27, 2009

An act relating to salmon and steelhead trout.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 539, as introduced, Wiggins. Ocean Protection Council: report on salmon and steelhead trout.

The California Ocean Protection Act establishes the Ocean Protection Council in state government and provides that the council consists of the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, the Secretary for Environmental Protection, the Chair of the State Lands Commission, and 2 public members appointed by the Governor. The act requires the council, among other things, to coordinate activities of state agencies that are related to the protection and conservation of coastal waters and ocean ecosystems, and to establish policies to coordinate the collection and sharing of scientific data related to coast and ocean resources between agencies.

This bill would require the council, by April 1, 2010, to prepare and submit a report to the Legislature regarding the costs of restoring native salmon and steelhead trout populations and restoring the health of the state's salmon fishery, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) On or before April 1, 2010, the Ocean
- 2 Protection Council shall prepare a report analyzing the costs of

1 infrastructure, enforcement, monitoring, and scientific analysis
2 related to both of the following:

3 (1) Restoration of native salmon and steelhead trout populations
4 to pre-1988 levels within five years.

5 (2) Restoration of the health of the state's salmon fishery.

6 (b) The report shall include, but shall not be limited to, the costs
7 of all of the following:

8 (1) Removal of dams on the Klamath River, the removal of the
9 San Clemente Dam on the Carmel River, the removal of the
10 Matilija Dam on the Ventura River, and the removal of the Rindge
11 Dam on Malibu Creek.

12 (2) Removal and restoration of blockages to fish passage in all
13 of the one hundred highest priority streams, as identified in the
14 CalFish database.

15 (3) Characterization of streamflow requirements for the 100
16 highest priority rivers and creeks for salmonid production, as
17 identified by the Department of Fish and Game.

18 (4) Enforcement of adequate in-stream flow required for
19 salmonid spawning, rearing, and passage on rivers and creeks
20 described in paragraph (3). The analysis shall include, but shall
21 not be limited to, costs of actions to stop unlawful diversions,
22 adjudicate water rights, and ensure sufficient resource flows
23 pursuant to statute, and costs of adequately staffing the Department
24 of Fish and Game, the State Water Resources Control Board, and
25 the office of the Attorney General for these purposes.

26 (5) Characterization of groundwater resources needed to ensure
27 streamflows and the impact of establishing groundwater
28 management in high priority groundwater basins.

29 (6) Acquisition of land and water rights in key groundwater
30 basins to reestablish flows.

31 (7) Implementation of water conservation technologies and the
32 development of new water supplies, including, but not limited to,
33 desalination, off-stream storage, and water reclamation in the
34 highest priority groundwater basins.

35 (8) Development of a collaborative research program that
36 employs fishermen and fisherwomen.

37 (c) On or before April 1, 2010, the council shall submit the
38 report to all of the following:

39 (1) The Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

40 (2) The Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture.

- 1 (3) The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water.
- 2 (4) The Assembly Committee on Natural Resources.
- 3 (5) The Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife.

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